

BUILD IN COMMUNITIES TO DEFEAT FASCISM!

The spontaneous anti-immigration protests that began at the end of 2022 are now largely running out of steam and have begun to fizzle out. The fascist organisations such as the National Party, the so-called Irish Freedom Party and Ireland First have failed to make any concrete gains in working class communities off the back of the wave of protests. Outside of the East Wall in Dublin the campaign is very disjointed and disorganised. Sections of the working class, initially mobilised by genuine concerns about the lack of consultation and angered by the capitalist cost of living and housing crisis, appear in many areas to see the futility of marching on centres housing refugees. But although the spontaneous protests are dwindling, now is not the time to be complacent, now is the time to be actively working and building in our communities to combat far right ideas and to ensure we keep the fascists out.

While the recent protests took on a racist character, particularly those targeted at centres housing refugees and asylum seekers, the majority of those taking part in the marches were not racist. What the phenomenon of the spontaneous wave of protest really represented was a boiling over of anger in working class communities at the generations of deliberate neglect by the free state coupled with anger at the deliberate All Ireland Housing Shortage and rise in cost of living, anger that can and should be championed by Republicans and directed at the establishment. That in many areas the local community actively sought

to keep fascist agitators out, and that in many cases protests called directly by fascist organisations flopped or had very small numbers, is further evidence of this.

The dwindling protests is in no small part due to the constant and thankless work engaged in by well-known Republicans, Socialists and Anti Fascists to engage with friends and neighbours, expose the far right, deconstruct far right lies, and work to direct anger back to where it should be, against those in Leinster House and Stormont. The intervention of Republicans and Anti Fascists in areas such as Arklow Co. Wicklow, Athy, Co. Kildare, Ballyfermot, Bluebell, Cabra and the Liber-

ties in Dublin has ensured no anti-immigration campaign took off or took root in these areas to date, while trojan work has been done by Republican and Anti Fascist activists in communities where protests have taken place including in Ballymun, Drimnagh, the East Wall, Finglas, Mullingar, Sherriff Street and Waterford, to ensure that far right lies are combatted and the real enemy of our people, those who hold the reins of power, are properly identified.

DCAR established

This work by Republicans and Anti Fascists over the last number of months has led to the establishment

of Dublin Communities Against Racism, a working class led and community-based initiative working across Dublin to combat the lies of the far right, target anger at the establishment and demand consultation in communities on the matter of housing refugees and asylum seekers. Though only in its infancy, the strategy employed by DCAR has already shown that the only way to defeat racism and fascism is on the ground and in communities. That strategy now needs to be deepened and spread across the country.

While the liberals who like to stand with Free State administration parties on O'Connell Street issuing platitudes seem already...



DCAR protest outside the Free State Department of Integration, Feb. 16

...believe that the battle against racism and fascism has been won, we know that is far from the truth. Constant work is needed to counter racist and far right ideas and to keep fascists out of working class communities. And to be successful in that work, now is the time to be building along the DCAR model in communities across the 32 Counties.

Local Strategy

That strategy should include:

- Building Anti Racist groups in working class communities uniting Republicans, Socialists and Anti Fascists with working Class residents.
- Door knocking and engaging with the community on racism while at the same time listening to con-

cerns of the working class and focusing anger against the establishment.

- Leaflets, Stalls, Posters, and Public Meetings to combat racism and the rise of the far right. Organising protests against the establishment and demanding consultation.
- To push anti racist and anti fascist lines in tenant associations, residents' groups, community groups, Trade unions, the GAA, sporting organisations, Irish Language Groups, in the pub and anywhere else we can engage with people.
- Physically confronting Fascist organisations when they attempt to take to the streets.

Such a strategy can unite Republicans and Anti Fascists with working

class communities to really win the war in racism and fascism. Political issues should be left outside the United Front because together, Republicans and Anti Fascists can defeat all threats to our communities.

AIA's Role

For our part AIA is actively working to make this a reality. We are actively working in organisations such as DCAR and AFA, but we are also taking to the streets on our own initiative, giving leadership on this issue across the country. Over the last few months our activists have been to the fore in the fight against racism and fascism in all four provinces at a national and community level. Over the last four weeks alone, our activists have been on

the streets with a clear anti fascist message in a number of areas including Arklow, Ballyfermot, Cork, Derry, Fairview, the Liberties, Dublin City, Galway, Mullingar and Waterford and we will continue to actively develop this strategy and our cooperation with other Republicans and Anti Fascists on this issue.

Now is not the time for complacency. Now is not the time to be patting ourselves on the back. Now is the time to work and build in our community to racism and fascism. Let us remember the words of Georgi Dimitrov in our task ahead as we work to build the United Front- *"Fascism is the most vicious enemy of the working class and of all working people."*

editorial

Since our last edition, in which we called for Anti Fascist unity, we can proudly say that call has been taken up and greatly advanced in the space of the last few weeks. In fighting racism and fascism, Republican groups such as Anti Imperialist Action Ireland, Saoradh, Lasair Dhearg, the Irish Socialist Republican Party, the 1916 Societies and Dublin Independent Republicans are demonstrating that Republicans can work together on common issues and get results. The statement coordinated by AFA from Republican Ex-POWs further demonstrates that Republicanism is playing the leading role in the fight against racism and fascism.

This emerging United Front has largely been facilitated by the work of Anti Fascist Action Ireland and Dublin Communities Against Racism, and includes other forces such as the Communist Party of Ireland, the Connolly Youth Movement and progressive independents. This key struggle of the working class demonstrates how Republicanism remains a relevant Revolutionary force. An Phoblacht Abú looks forward to seeing this unity and common strategy continuing to develop and strengthen in the time ahead as the fight against racism and fascism takes on importance.

Socialist Republicans, and Anti Imperialist Action in particular, continue to be active across the country on a number of key campaigns including Housing, soaring energy prices, opposing the presence of NATO in Ireland, and campaigning for Women's safety through the ongoing Anti spiking Campaign. But also over the last few weeks, AIA implementing its strategy of building strong bases in working class communities has engaged in some inspiring community activism, particularly in Tallaght where the organisation is supporting local residents through anti social behaviour patrols and in Munster, where our activists have removed harmful drugs from the community. This is the kind of community activism that makes Socialist Republicanism relevant in our communities and greatly strengthens the Revolutionary Movement.

Also since our last edition, there have been at least three military operations in the Occupied Six Counties, believed to be carried out by Armed Republican organisations, one in Derry and one in Tyrone. While the operations are detailed in a later article in this paper, it is important to note that there has been a general upwards trend in militant Republican Activism and Republican Mili-

tary Operations since November 2022. 25 years after Britain's Good Friday Treaty, a treaty that had been designed by London to be the death knell of Revolutionary Irish Republicanism, Revolutionary Republican Resistance continues and appears to be strengthening once again. While the operations are small and spread out, that fact is they seem to increase each month.

An Phoblacht Abú welcome this general trend, and drawing on Irish history we understand that so long as Britain continues to occupy and partition Ireland, Republican Resistance is not only necessary and inevitable, it is completely justified. 108 years after Padraig Pearse gave the oration at the graveside of the great Fenian O'Donovan Rossa in 1915, his words continue to ring true, *'Ireland Unfree shall never be at Peace!'*

If you want to get involved with the paper or submit a piece for consideration, email us at:

isrmedia@protonmail.com

WAR NEWS

FEBRUARY 23

Armed Republican resistance to the ongoing and illegal British Occupation of Ireland has been on the rise since November 2022 and particularly over the last month, February 2023. There have been at least three military operations attributed to Republican armies in the past 30 days, a notable increase.

Friday February 17: The mainstream media report on a suspicious device in Derry and link it to Arm na Poblachta. Reports state that at 9.30pm four armed masked men attempted to hijack a delivery driver in the Hollymount area of the city. The following day British forces confirmed that an explosive device found at Corrody Road, Derry City was viable. 3 men arrested in the aftermath of the Republican operation have since been released.



Aftermath of shooting operation in Omagh.

Wednesday February 22: Shortly after 8pm news broke that a serving off duty RUC officer had been shot in Omagh, County Tyrone. Since the news broke, more information has been made available in the media which include the identity of the shot RUC officer, Detective Chief Inspector John Caldwell, one of the most high profile British Police officers in Ireland. Six men were arrested including a number of members of Saoradh. On February 26th the IRA, often referred to in the media as the "New IRA", issued a claim of responsibility for the operation by pasting a short statement on walls in Republican communities in Derry. The statement

reads: *'The Irish Republican Army claim responsibility for the military operation targeting senior Crown Force member, John Caldwell. An active service unit of the IRA were in position to target the enemy within our choosing kill zone with other armed volunteers giving cover. All volunteers returned safely to base. Irish Republican Army intelligence are now in possession of security information regarding the out of bounds movement of Crown Force personnel. We would say this, you will still have to try and live a normal family life day to day, one of those days the IRA will be waiting. T O'Neill'*

Saturday February 25: The mainstream media report of a security alert on the Dervaghroy Road in Beragh, outside Omagh County Tyrone. Reports say the alert is in relation to a suspicious object. The RUC keep the road closed for two days, before it reopens on Monday, with the British Crown Militia announcing they found a number of airsoft guns in the area. That airsoft guns would cause a security alert lasting three days has to be viewed as highly questionable.



British forces in Beragh

IRELAND UNFREE SHALL NEVER BE AT PEACE.

AIA EXTEND SOLIDARITY TO ARRESTED REPUBLICANS



Anti Imperialist Action Ireland in the past and it will continue to extend our solidarity to the Republican activists arrested and to the families and communities enduring harassment and raids over recent days in Omagh and Coalisland Co. Tyrone by British Imperialist forces.

Britain has no right to be in Ireland and no one describing themselves as Republican should be offering the RUC or any other Brit Crown forces their support for carrying out their ongoing war against republicans.

The targeting of Republican political activists in this way is an attempt to intimidate Republicans into silence. This tactic has failed

British Militias are not welcome in Ireland! RUC/PSNI Out!

TALLAGHT:

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR PATROL

In a response to a call from residents, members of Anti Imperialist Action Tallaght held an Anti Social Behaviour patrol in the Mac Uilliam estate Dublin 24.

The purpose of the patrol was to engage with the small number of youth in the area who are engaging in anti community behaviour, that has some residents afraid in their own homes.



Working class estates like Mac Uilliam have been abandoned by the Free State and neglected for years. But there is a strong community spirit and through the patrols we will encourage the youth to engage in more positive behaviour and not to be intimidating residents in their own community.

Republicans will always respond to residents and communities who ask for our assistance. Republicanism is the Revolutionary movement in this country because it is of the community and rooted in working class areas across 32 Counties.

MUNSTER:

ACTIVISTS REMOVE DRUGS FROM COMMUNITY

Following a serious incident members of Anti Imperialist Action Munster were contacted by concerned parents and residents within a small community, who were extremely worried about ongoing anti-social behaviour and drug dealing in the area.

Our members listened to the concerns, and fears expressed, and this community felt that as the issues raised were not against property of the State or developers including rack rent landlords, that the forces of the State were ignoring their appeals for help, especially around the issue of drug dealing.

The attitude that drug dealing is everywhere and a fact of life in ghettoised communities and that the under resourced services just can't cope are a pathetic attempt at excusing the lack of care the State and its organs have for the working class and their communities.

Epidemic

We believe that the ongoing epidemic of substance misuse in our communities is a direct result of the lack of a wide variety of services for communities and families suffering it's ill effects, the second strand to the ongoing ability of "low level" drug dealing is the mindset by the State that they are an intrinsic part of the intelligence gathering apparatus of the State, caught with "small" amounts these dealers are released back into the community and allow to continue death dealing if they will supply infor-

mation on others within their dealers network and or others within the community with whom the State has issues, political and social activists being the main targets of such low intensity operations.

Community Action

Our members acted upon the information of the community and removed a quantity of prescription medication hidden in an area around a children's playground, these were subsequently disposed of using a medically approved system for the medications and items were likely to be of an extreme risk to health and life. These prescription medications can be life threatening if a child ingests them, they are also a risk if mixed with other substances.

Quetiapine causes increased risk of death due to dementia-related psychosis. Increased risk of suicidal thoughts.

Venlafaxine is contraindicated if it causes worsening suicidal ideation, depression, anxiety, and psychosis. Caution is advisable in heart failure patients, hyperthyroidism, and those with recent myocardial infarctions as it can raise blood pressure and increase heart rate. Anti-Imperialist Action like other Irish Republican groups not only recognise the threat that drug dealers pose to our communities but also the use of such individuals by the State.

Revolutionary Republicans will always stand with the Community!

CORK: SOCIALIST REPUBLICANS DESTROY PRO-IMPERIALIST SYMBOLS

In late February, Socialist Republicans removed poppy wreaths from the imperialist war memorial in Cork and burned them. One of the wreaths came from the pro imperialist Western Front Association. Republicans will never stand by while British Imperialism is being glorified in Ireland, and such glorification is deeply insulting as Britain continues to illegally occupy and partition Ireland.

Britain Out of Ireland Now!



ANTI-RACIST MARCH UNDERMINED BY FREE STATE PARTIES

On February 18th a mass display of opposition to racism was seen in the city centre of Dublin with thousands marching from the Garden of Remembrance to Custom House Quay. The principle that Ireland is an accepting country, open for all and far from 'full', was loudly proclaimed. Irish people have been forced across the world and have also suffered racism. Our nation's experience has taught us what it means to have to pack up and leave your loved ones and community behind. Our people know the difficulties of starting a new life abroad. We should not cast the same anti-migrant lies at newcomers to our land that was cast against us a million times over.

Unfortunately this demonstration was greatly undermined by the presence of a number of parties who are in fact directly responsible for the present increase in racism and division in working class communities. The banners of the Green Party, Social Democrats and Labour have no place at a genuine anti-racist rally. These parties help to create the conditions for discontent and division in communities. They all clamour for power in the Free State and support imperialism in Ireland and abroad. Their open presence utterly undermined the potential

progressive message of the rally. It pushes it from a stand against racism and its roots to a wishy-washy liberal pat-on-the-back.

The reactionary anti-migrant protests have emerged from the Free State's incapacity to meet the needs of the people or migrants. This has helped to shape the illusion of a zero-sum game for housing and resources – and now migrants are infringing on this limited pool. These Free State parties offer no solution to these issues. They accept the domination of Ireland's property market by foreign vultures. Both the Greens and Labour have been in multiple government coalitions where they supported the privatisation and financialisation of housing. The Social Democrats have likewise supported the selling off of public land to private interests, such as in the case of O'Devaney Gardens.

From its foundations the Free State has been rooted in racism, the gombeen elites of Ireland accepting the British Empire in order to attain 'white dominion' status. As one Free Stater said in 1922: *'Give us Dominion Home Rule, give us Repeal of the Union, give us anything that will stamp us as white men and women, but for Heaven's sake don't give us a Central American Republic.'* This

fundamentally racist orientation – to unite with the imperialist nations against our kin in the other oppressed nations – is shared by these liberal parties. Genuine national liberation for the oppressed nations must be the watchword of genuine anti-racists.

A core part of this imperialist collaborationism is the Free State's complicity in NATO aggression and wars, which have done so much to create migration crises in Ukraine, Syria and elsewhere. Likewise these liberal parties are cheerleaders for that key imperialist alliance and institution – the European Union. The EU's racist immigration policy has enforced the favouring of Ukrainian refugees over refugees from all other countries – besides blatantly favouring white refugees over refugees of colour, this is a means of supporting Western imperialism. The Greens and Labour have sat on multiple government coalitions and allowed the criminal Direct Provision system to persist. Refugees from warzones in Africa and the Middle East languish for years in what amount to prisons while all barriers have been dropped for Ukrainians. The racist nature of this is blatant yet these hypocritical opportunist parties follow along after them, oc-

asionally making speeches and promises that amount to nothing when the question of actually rocking the boat presents itself.

Many at the march recognised and highlighted much of the above and this genuine anti-racist, anti-establishment trend must be promoted and developed. However it was grist to the mill of Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil and the far-right to permit the presence of the banners of those parties who have actively promoted the conditions for racism to rise and who stand in the way of the changes necessary to put a stop to it. Liberal anti-racism must give way to radical anti-racism – that is, not the anti-racism of the self-righteous middle classes but anti-racism that strikes at the root of racism. Being anti-racist without being anti-imperialist is like being against a sore throat and runny nose without being against the flu virus. Trying to stop the spread of racism in alliance with the government – and would-be government – parties is like trying to stop a fire by allying with the arson. The struggle against racism does not alone take place in the realm of ideas, primarily it must be a concrete struggle against oppression.

DUBLIN ANTI-FASCIST FUNDRAISER



A successful anti-fascist fundraiser was held by Dublin republicans and anti-fascists on the last Thursday of February. A number of acts, including singers, musicians and poets, promoted a radical message of anti-fascism, republicanism and anti-capitalism. It was well-attended and greatly enjoyed by all.

A consistent theme was Ireland's history of migration, reflected in our songs, and the need to be welcoming to those in similar situations today. Likewise the need to mercilessly crush fascism wherever and however it arises was highlighted. The proceeds of event will go towards legal costs for anti-fascists.

The main speaker finished the event by reminding those assembled that fascism will never take root in such a nation with a progressive tradition extending

back to the United Irishmen of the 1790s, a nation that give birth to and celebrated Pearse, Connolly and Sands. While we must be militant and decisive in our opposition to this rising threat, pro-imperialist fascist charlatans will never pose a serious threat to power. Their attempts to divide the Irish people may serve to hinder our movement for freedom, liberation and progress, but they will yet be washed away and the people will be united. The united anti-fascist mood of the event was a welcome respite from the twin evils of reactionary racism and middle-class liberalism that are dominating communities and politics at present. It is this revolutionary trend, the true essence of Ireland's national history, that will ultimately be victorious here.

ANTI-SPIKING CAMPAIGN UPDATE

The incidence of Spiking in Ireland continues to rise this ongoing assault on individuals must be confronted at every level of social interaction and within education settings and society in general.

We all know it occurs, we all know that the response within social settings is lack lustre at best and within State bodies ineffective and even non-existent. AIA launched the Anti-Spiking campaign not as a random piece of social and political activism but as an ongoing educational and supportive campaign aimed not just at those who are spiked or at risk of spiking but to enhance the response and understanding of people in general and first responders in particular.

National Ambulance Paramedics,

Advanced Paramedics and doctors are well trained at identifying and inhibiting drug toxicity and spiking, those that need further training and certification are the security and staff of establishments where spiking may occur and community first responders who may be tasked by the NAS if a 999/112 call comes in as not breathing and or unconscious.

We call for the training to become mandatory for all security industry staff for the identification of the medical issue, the threat to life and personal security it poses and the steps needed to mitigate that threat, this must include Opioid inhibitor (Narcan/naloxone) training and access.

Opioid inhibitors like intramuscu-

lar naloxone injections or Nasal sprays must become available to those who are trained and certified through a National program (Limerick City Naloxone Project), spiking poses an immediate life threatening issue along with the sexual assault aspect in that the variety of drugs used in spiking varies and may include opioid substances. Naloxone is a safe and effective inhibitor.

The effective use of naloxone has been demonstrated over decades of interactions, the threat spiking poses has been demonstrated over decades, it time for those who control such programs and access to such medications to accept the threat is real, the damage caused is real and the response to the threat must be all encompassing.



PRO-WAR RALLY HELD BY FREE STATE CHIEFS IN DUBLIN

In late February, a political rally was held in O'Connell Street adjacent to the GPO. The rally, titled *"Fighting for Europe: 1 Year of Russian War Against Ukraine"* was hosted by all the major parties of the Free State's political elite, from its neoliberal ruling government to its "left wing" opposition. Speaking to a crowd of several hundred bearing banners and slogans reading "Russians are murderers", "Arm Ukraine now", and "De-Nazify Kremlin" was a line-up of all of the Free State's key figureheads of political power.

Speakers included the Fianna Fáil Micheál Martin, Green Party Leader Eamon Ryan, Leader of the Labour Party Ivana Bacik, and President of the long-capitulated Sinn Féin Mary Lou McDonald, for the Social Democrats Catherine Murphy, and Ukrainian Ambassador Larysa Gerasko. Overall, an awful pack of jackals representing all the diversity of the Free State's dominant political class, out to prove their loyalty behind NATO and Britain in the inter-imperialist war in Ukraine and Donbass.

The rally lasted several hours, with the aforementioned speakers gently protesting in their own fenced-off zone, separated from the crowd. In

front of the media, one-by-one they gave passionate speeches denouncing Irish neutrality. The crowd they appealed to was primarily a mixture of Ukrainians and West Brits. The presence of young Irish students at the protest was noticeable, as once again a section of the Irish youth has been swayed to the calls of higher powers to "Defend Europe" as they had with the National Volunteers in a time so familiar but so long ago.

Nazism

Also present in the crowd, predictably, were Neo-Nazis, which did not seem to bother the organisers. A man bearing a pro-Azov Battalion (a Neo-Nazi battalion in the fascist Ukrainian military whose founder claimed that his mission was to *"lead the white races of the world in a final crusade...against Semite-led Untermenschen"*) flag was present, along with another man sighted by an AIA activist bearing Azov "Wolfsangel" patches. The Neo-Nazi power and anti-minority atrocities in Ukraine's military and political sphere was long accepted as a basic fact by Western press before the invasion. Now it is ignored.

To note, the flags of a previous NATO intervention project, the Turkish-backed Free Syrian Army, were fittingly present at the rally, without almost a single Syrian holding them. While hypocritically condemning Russia's invasion, NATO, through Turkey, has used the jihadists and extremists of the Free Syrian Army as allies in their illegal invasion of North-East Syria and Rojava. It is only natural that the flag of the force helping the Turkish Army conquer and murder Syrians and Kurds would be present at this pro-war rally.

Calls for intervention

The rally and its bloodthirsty chants called for Ireland to get thick into the NATO war effort against rival imperialist Russia. It comes at a time of increased Free State intervention in the war, covered in another article in this paper. But one thing has been made clear. From left to right, neoliberal to "socialist", all who benefit from harnessing Ireland to Brit, EU, and Yank imperialism in their drive to lump Ireland in with the "West" are firmly united and literally marching side by side in throwing out the façade of Free State neutrality once and for all.

UKRAINE AMBASSADOR RECRUITING TEENAGE SOLDIERS IN IRELAND



At the massive pro-war rally held by Free State politicians on Friday the 24th, all eyes were on keynote speaker and organiser Larysa Gerasko. Hailed as a hero from all sides of the political arena, this woman is portrayed as a warm but fearless heroine rallying Ireland to the cause of "Fighting for Europe." However, a closer inspection reveals that Larysa Gerasko's exploits are anything but noble or heroic, but instead those of a modern John Redmond.

Larysa Gerasko was born in April 4, 1974 in Pryluky in the Chernihiv Oblast of the Ukrainian SSR. Fluent in Ukrainian and English, she completed a Masters of Law at Taras Shevchenko Kyiv National University. During her career in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, she has proven herself to be a shrewd and capable diplomat, being one of the few Ukrainian officials to continue their service after the NATO-led far-right Euromaidan coup in 2013, being promoted to the Director General of the Directorate for International Law in its wake.

During her time in this position Gerasko and the MFA's work included quashing attempts to bring humanitarian attention to the bombardment of the Russian-speaking civilian areas of Donbass by Euromaidan forces since 2014. Loyal to the new militarist regime and consequentially all of the Neo-Nazi factions such as Right Sector and the Azov Battalion which gained power in the takeover, Ms. Gerasko was assigned to being the Ukrainian Ambassador to the semi-colonial

Free State, the official representative of the NATO-backed war effort.

Agent of NATO

Having silenced dissent on Ukraine's military invasion of the DPR and LPR republics in Donbass and widespread atrocities by groups in the Ukrainian military such as Azov, Gerasko now insists that Ireland *"has to be very vocal and very strong now and there are steps that the international community must do immediately in order to stop Russia."* Despite being an agent of the invader, occupier, and terroriser of other small nations for 8 years prior to Russia's invasion, now for Gerasko *"it's hard to believe that it happened in the 21st century."*

Gerasko, almost as if possessed by the ghost of John Redmond himself, has been harvesting Irish sons from Irish mothers to fuel her contribution to the International Legion of Territorial Defence of Ukraine.

With her government expecting her to provide fresh blood for their war against Russia Ms. Gerasko and the Embassy of Ukraine launched a recruitment campaign in Ireland to find fighters. Backed by Free State media such as RTÉ and the political classes such as with the rally held on Friday, they have sadly found much success just as Redmond's "National Volunteers" did before in filling the Somme with Irish corpses in WWI.

Recruiting Teenagers

In the first month of their recruitment it was estimated that

20 Irish men had been sent to Ukraine to fight with pats on the back by the Free State government. Since then, dozens upon dozens, possibly hundreds, have been recruited, though exact figures have been hidden and obscured by the embassy. The ranks of those fooled into fighting a foreign enemy for NATO and Britain instead of fighting against the actual military occupation of Ireland ongoing in the 6 counties include the 23 year old Rory Mason from Dunboyne. However, recent evidence shows that victims far younger than Mason have been recruited.

An article published on the 9th of January by the Irish Times revealed that even the Free State now admits that there has been a serious problem of the Embassy recruiting teenagers, some even dropping out of secondary school to fight. "The Irish Times has learned that men in their late teens and early 20s have signed up for and been accepted to join the war effort despite having no combat experience and, in some cases, no military experience whatsoever" the article stated in a rare admittance of guilt by Free State media and the Gardaí. However, according to the Gardaí, the enforcers of the Free State itself, only a few individual applications were re-assessed. Nobody has been sent home in response, and recruitment continues.

Ms. Gerasko has used crafty and snakish tactics to lure our children into the arms of her fascist army. She has targeted

social media platforms used by young people such as YouTube Shorts and Instagram, where videos promoting the "Be a Hero" tagline of the Legion were played in advertisements. Teenagers, especially adventurous young boys, are always susceptible to fantasies of going to foreign lands, fighting in wars, and being heroes. But nothing will ever prepare them for the unimaginable horror of the modern trench warfare being fought in the mud of Ukraine and Donbass. Those who return from this highly illegal recruitment campaign will never be the same, and will surely have their nerves completely shot.

Vipers

Despite the wide reports from even the Free State Gardaí themselves about a lax recruitment process all political parties, including the "socialists" of the Labour Party and SocDems and "republicans" of Sinn Féin, literally rally around Gerasko and her fluffy, heartwarming, and emotional demeanour as she whines about her personal struggles. But true Socialist Republicans have no illusions.

Gerasko is a viper who is sacrificing Ireland's children for her career in a foreign imperialist war. This is a story so tragic but so familiar to us. Anyone who aids her cause shares the blood on her hands, and is a traitor to our nation.

IMPERIALISTS STOKES UP MILITARY AGGRESSION

We live in a world heating up with military aggression. The present escalation in Ukraine is the latest development. In the wake of this imperial states on the continent have increased their military spending. Germany just pumped 100 billion euros into its army. As a consequence the Free State's so-called neutrality is being further eroded. Such situations highlight the importance to engage in a materialist analysis of the situation.

The German revolutionary Rosa Luxemburg, murdered by the fascist Freikorps commanded by the Social Democratic Party of Germany on the 15 January 1919, described militarism as a dynamic the capitalist state use to secure the interest of capital domestically and internationally. When different national bourgeois classes have conflicting interests, they are forced into a conflict which can escalate to a war. This might not be in the immediate interest of the state itself, but the bourgeoisie is profiting in three ways. First and foremost it helps their struggle to compete against foreign capitalists and to enforce their interests internationally. Secondly it is hugely profitable for finance-capital to invest in the arms industry as stocks are increasing. Last but not least it is a tool of repression

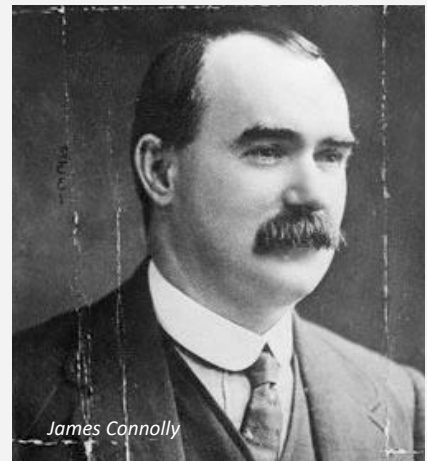
against the domestic working class as it, for example, justifies militarisation of the police force or even the domestic use of the army.

Those three points can be observed nowadays as the Russian aggression is a tool to secure the threatened position of the Russian capital in Ukraine. While Western arms companies increase direct investments leading to a massive increase of the value on the stock market. Additionally we see the heightened repression of oppositional movements in Russia, the USA and more recently in Germany and France. All these dynamics must be acknowledged. For our domestic struggle it is important to struggle for Irish neutrality and call for an end to collaboration with NATO forces. An increase of support for imperialist militarism will not only bring suffering and perpetuate conflicts abroad but is highly likely to be used as a tool of repression against the Irish working class.

As Connolly said on the outbreak of the First World War: *'As an Irish worker I owe a duty to our class; counting no allegiance to Empire, I'd be glad to see it back in the bottomless pit. ... better to fight for our own country than for the robber empire.'*



Rosa Luxemburg



James Connolly

NO TO FREE STATE-NATO COLLABORATION!

On the 21st of February, the administration in Leinster House approved the use of 30 Free State soldiers on a mission to train Ukrainian troops. They are to participate in the "European Union Military Assistance Mission in support of Ukraine" or EUMAM Ukraine. The purported goal of the Free State contingent is to train Ukrainian forces in demining.

Micheal Martin, currently Free State Minister for Defence, stated that *"Given Ireland's steadfast support for Ukraine and the considerable experience our Defence Forces have in providing training both at home and overseas, the Government regards the participation of the Defence Forces in this mission as an important signal of Ireland's unwavering support for and solidarity with Ukraine."* When questioned on this decision, Martin claimed this was humanitarian, "non-lethal" aid.

The idea that this is merely a humanitarian

mission does not stand up to scrutiny. Training provided for removing and dismantling mines can be used to plant and assemble mines. Improving the military capability of Ukrainian forces is directly involving Ireland in an imperialist war.

Collaboration

The 26 County State is continuing on its path of imperialist collaboration and foisting NATO on the Irish people. Despite this, there is clear evidence that the Irish people are opposed to participation in imperialist military alliances. An Irish Times Poll published on February 25th found that 54% of respondents were opposed to providing military assistance to Ukraine, with only 32% being in favour.

Commenting on the ongoing war, Martin said that *"This war, waged by Putin and Russia on Ukraine, is a violation of the UN Charter which*

enshrines the basic right of any nation to its territorial integrity and to its sovereignty." This point raises the question: if the concern of the Free State is territorial integrity and sovereignty, why is similar concern not raised about the ongoing partition and occupation of Ireland by British forces? This ongoing apologia for the actions of British, American and EU imperialism while denouncing Russian imperialism is riddled with hypocrisy.

No Imperialist Wars!

One year on from the beginning of the Russian military offensive in Ukraine, we can see the devastation wrought by inter-imperialist conflict. Hundreds of thousands have been killed in a war that appears to be nowhere near a settlement. Socialist Republicans will continue to oppose attempts to drag the Irish people into this conflict and all other imperialist conflicts.



A COLONY ONCE AGAIN?

Jarlath Burns election as president of the GAA, the first person from the 6 counties to hold that office since Peter Quinn has been hailed as another milestone in the road to a united Ireland. A Gael, Gaeilgeoir and "northerner" from South Armagh, his appointment has been seen as a further step in the process of unification.

Socialist Republicans know otherwise. The media and constitutional nationalists scrambling to congratulate Burns have done so, not because he is a ferocious advocate of a United Ireland, never mind a Socialist Republic. But for the exact opposite, in that he accepts British sovereignty over Ireland and an advocate of the status quo.

Burns is a quintessential post-Republican. If anyone demonstrates the trajectory of constitutional nationalists and former republicans since the Good Friday Agreement it is Jarlath Burns. An Irish speaker and Gael from occupied Ireland who does not question, never mind challenge British rule in Ireland. He believes that there are two nations in Ireland.

That there are "British people" in Ireland whose rights need to be protected. He has opined that the changing of the national flag



and national anthem could be necessary in order to appease unionists in Ireland.

He has stated that *"There is a significant*

British population who reside on this part of Ireland and they feel under siege." The question must be asked, why are these compromises necessary when Britain still occupies Ireland? Surely any question of changing of the flag or anthem should be a question after the British state has given a declared intention to withdraw from Ireland. The 6 counties is a contested territory. It is for that reason that republicans and socialist republicans do not veer from their principles when it comes to the nations sovereignty and unity.

However living in a post GFA, post republican world, compromise is the common theme between former republicans and constitutional nationalists. Not only compromise on long held republican principles and convictions but also compromise on the existence of a single, unitary Irish nation.

The right of the Irish people to national independence and sovereignty has to be upheld with no compromise.

BRAZIL: REVOLUTIONARY PEASANTS MURDERED

A revolutionary movement is brewing in Brazil among the long-since oppressed people of the countryside. The League of Poor Peasants (LCP) are leading these exploited masses in their struggle against the semi-feudal landlord system in order to develop the struggle against the rotten Brazilian state. The peasants are daily fighting for better rights and conditions, often by seizing land from the big landlords in order that it might be used by the ordinary people. This campaign for the basic rights of life has been met with the most fierce and brutal repression by the semi-colonial, bureaucrat capitalist landlord state, the most recent being the murder of two members of the LCP.

On 28th January five peasants were arbitrarily arrested and tortured by the pro-landlord police in the Tiago Campim dos Santos area of Rondonia, one of whom was shot, while two of whom, local revolutionaries, comrades Esticado and Mandruvá, were murdered. As usual the police lied, saying the peasants had first fired on them – yet they had been arrested unarmed. Their recovered bodies were covered in the blatant marks of severe torture. Comrade Esticado had had his tongue torn out and cheeks slashed alongside other wounds. This was a vicious act of vengeance on the part of the big landlords of the region for the resistance of the peasantry. With the complete complicity of the media, politicians and police this massacre was inflicted upon the people in an attempt to maintain the exploitative practices and privileges of the big landlords. Making this reality plain, alongside the massacre the military police attacked a local encampment of peasants,

shooting and throwing bombs at them in order to expel them.

We finish with powerful words of the League of Poor Peasants in the aftermath of the massacre:

'Until when will this outfit of murderers and uniformed bandits of the old state continue to commit torture and murder of peasants with impunity?

As long as it depends on the governors of the landlords, the politicians of Rondonia, the mercenaries of the police and a large section of the judiciary of the state, the landlords, and their armed gangs, who steal the land from the Union, the national press monopolies and the rubbish press of Rondonia, all of whom are the same scoundrels and are richly funded with public money, this will continue – until they are wiped out by the revolution in the country.'



Graffiti in honour of the murdered comrades in Dublin.

PROTOCOL DEBACLE ENTERS NEW PHASE

After months of wrangling we have another proposed Protocol deal courtesy of our British and EU overlords. Once again we have seen the European powers to bend over backwards to please the Brits. While the overall framework of the Irish Protocol arrangement remains in place, there have been a number of changes made that are supposed to resolve the ongoing inter-imperialist conflict over the Occupied 6 countries.

If the new arrangement is not accepted by political Loyalism it will not be implemented. In summarising the new agreement, called "the Windsor Framework", the EU Commission has said that their goal is to address *"the real-life concerns of all communities in Northern Ireland, while protecting the integrity of the EU Single Market."* But what does this mean in practice?

Trade Arrangements

As presented by both parties the process of moving goods to the North has been simplified, with fewer barriers and bureaucracy for British goods being consumed in the OGC and separate regulations for goods passing through the North to EU countries. A "Green Lane" will deal with the former, and a "Red Lane" will with the latter.

Supposedly this arrangement would benefit the North economically, by guaranteeing access to both the British and EU Single Market. Sunak has proclaimed that *"Northern Ireland is in the unbelievably special position."* If the claims of the British state are correct this would effectively mean an end to a border in the Irish Sea, however the EU has been more measured in its presentation. The arrangement will also seemingly allow British imperialism to set excise and VAT changes for the North, but it remains unclear how this will coexist with existing EU tariffs and laws which will also apply to the Occupied 6. The British state claims that all of this will go towards "safeguarding" the North's place in

the Union. The reality is however much messier.

The "Stormont Brake"

There is a proposal for a new mechanism called the Stormont Brake. This would allow Stormont to overturn EU law affecting the North in consultation. However the EU Commission has said that "This mechanism would be triggered under the most exceptional circumstances and as a matter of last resort." EU Law would be applicable to the Northern state automatically, and each law would have to be consciously repealed. This may prove to be unacceptable to Loyalism.

The Brake itself has also been oversold by Sunak. In reality and as per the wording of the framework, the decision to overturn an EU law does not actually lie with Stormont but with the British state, who will meet to discuss laws after at least 30 Stormont reps from two or more parties sign a petition. This is described by Sunak as "cross-community" consent, yet the wording of the agreement makes no mention of this. Once a petition has been made, the Brits are to notify the EU that the regulation is suspended. The final decision is then made at a British-EU Joint Committee. The name "Stormont Brake" is therefore a total misnomer, it is a British veto on policies in the North that is being safeguarded.

Sinn Féin On Backfoot

Sinn Féin throughout this process has met with Sunak more than the DUP has. They've also welcomed the deal, despite the fact that it would in part remove the border at the Irish Sea they themselves have celebrated in the past. This is part of their effort to "make politics work", in other words strengthening the colonial state and signalling to British imperialism that they are prepared to take on the role of trusted overseer. They cannot argue against this imperialist brokered deal because their overriding priority is to get Stormont back up and running, to prove themselves



the mature and level-headed subjects in contrast to the DUP.

Sinn Féin and Alliance had called for the current Protocol to be implemented rigorously. Now the Protocol is to be altered following mobilisation by Loyalism, and they have simply meekly accepted the new arrangements. Nowhere has SF accepted that this was a clear political defeat for them, so terrified are they of losing standing with the British state. That the Framework is pitched towards winning Loyalist rather than Nationalist acceptance shows that the political initiative currently lies with Loyalism. Their political demands are being met by imperialism while Sinn Féin sit on the sidelines.

Loyalist Response

At the time of printing, it has yet to be seen whether this new deal will be accepted by the DUP and Loyalism broadly. DUP boss Jeffrey Donaldson has praised the "significant progress" made, but also clearly opposes EU Law remaining applicable to the 6 Counties. For now they have made no promises of acceptance only that the framework will be discussed. They will be under significant pressure from armed Loyalism to reject any offering.

Representatives of Loyalist death squads such as Jamie Bryson have already called for a rejection of the new arrangement, nothing less than a total dismantling of the Protocol and a hard border in Ireland will satisfy. In the lead-up to the new arrangement, leading Ulster Volunteer Force members have said they

will *"wreck the place"* and that the *"the streets will be in flames"* if the Protocol and Sea Border are not entirely scrapped. This ongoing pressure explains in part the fawning tone the British and EU state has taken towards Loyalism.

So desperate are the imperialists to get this deal accepted by Loyalists that they have even enlisted the support of Charles Windsor himself, meeting with EU Chief Ursula Von Leyen to assuage fears. The framework name being British, the focus on restoring the Union, the emphasis on free flowing sausages by both the EU and Sunak, all give the impression of attempting to pander to Loyalists to the extreme. However, there are other sections of the British ruling class in particular those tied closest to the security apparatus and Loyalism that are continuing to work towards a hard border in Ireland.

Republican Response

Wherever or however Britain places its illegal borders in Ireland, Irish Republicans will continue to demand an immediate British withdrawal from Irish soil. Socialist Republicans object to this entire arrangement where imperial powers sit around the table, with the acquiescence of Irish compradors, to decide policies that affect the lives of Irish people and the sovereignty of the Irish nation. Only when partition and occupation is ended and the All Ireland Republic established will the Irish people of all backgrounds be free to decide their own destinies.

LEAVE COLLINS TO FREE STATERS AND FASCISTS



Fascist Blueshirts commemorate Michael Collins in 1933.

With last year's lavish celebrations of the centenary of Michael Collins' successful assassination by Irish Republican Army volunteers at Béal na Bláth, and then now the invoking of Collins' name by Irish "nationalists" of the far-right such as the (Nazi) National Party, a flurry of differing opinions on Collins' legacy have now flown about from the media and political classes of the Free State.

These opinions have certainly included Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil's usual unreserved worship of the man and a remarkable but-certainly-not-unexpected tweet by Sinn Féin leader Mary Lou MacDonald praising him as a "giant". Free State military commemorations have taken place in the very ill-named Cathal Brugha Barracks. Albums have been announced in his honour. Meanwhile, those of the republican movement and various republican movements have refused to praise Collins amid the political mythology around him, criticising him as an enemy of the republican movement.

However, one interesting fea-

ture of the discussion is a fairly new but vocal opinion, largely coming from Sinn Féin-adjacent "republicans" and those who criticise Fine Gael from mildly "left" positions, and of well-meaning but uneducated Irish people dissatisfied with the Micheál Martin and Leo Varadkar government. According to many, more than likely including those who boo'd and jeered at Varadkar, Fine Gael are in the wrong for attempting to "co-opt" Collins for themselves, as though they cannot claim his legacy. Citations by Collins condemning poverty on the odd occasion have appeared on social media, as evidence that Fine Gael is in fact, not properly carrying forward the dream of Collins.

During their commemoration Fine Gael were called sell-outs and traitors by many in response to their commemoration of Collins. These facts about Fine Gael are absolutely correct, and perhaps even insufficient to describe the gravity of Fine Gael's cronyism towards British imperialism. While recognising the good intentions of many who hold these opinions, and

the ill-intent of the far-right figures who parrot their true ownership of Collins, it is important to understand and point out the serious historical mistake being made. It is that while it is right to call Fine Gael traitors, it is wrong to counterpose this with Michael Collins, as if there is any kind of contradiction between being a traitor to Ireland, and upholding Michael Collins, the original seed of the comprador "Free State" in the 26 counties and its unfailing subservience to the British Empire.

Early Years

Michael Collins, born in Cork in 1890, first became involved in Irish republicanism through the London GAA, and fought in the 1916 Easter Rising against British rule as a member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood, when the Irish Republic was proclaimed, which we refer to as the All-Irish People's Republic. After his release from prison following the Rising, he began to climb the ranks of the revolutionary movement prior to and during the guerrilla war

fought against crown forces, the Tan War (1919-1921). During this period, he took up positions such as Minister for Finance in the revolutionary First Dáil when the Irish Republic was ratified and Director of Intelligence in the Irish Republican Army.

While his importance in the struggle was apparent, he certainly was not as extremely powerful within the ranks of the republican movement as is described today. Collins is often depicted as the "leader" of the IRA at the time, something which is blatantly false and only based on the overestimated importance of his roles. Figures such as Minister for Defence Cathal Brugha held more authority over the military aspect of the Tan War.

Treaty

In 1921 Collins lead the delegation sent to meet the British at Westminster, sent with the task of achieving the sovereignty of Collins, alongside pro-imperialist racist and anti-republican Arthur Griffith, instead returned with the Anglo-Irish Treaty of 1921...

Cont. page 12

...which would lead to the formation of a dominion of the British Empire, the Irish "Free State" in the 26 counties beneath a border, above which would rely the orange state of "Northern Ireland" under direct British military occupation, controlled by a Loyalist apartheid government. The British government of David Lloyd-George and Winston Churchill curtailed the self-determination of the Irish people by threatening "terrible" war should they refuse the bogus treaty.

Collins used this as a pretext to seize power as leader of his new "Irish Free State", forming the "National Army" to fight those leaders in the Irish Republican Army who remained loyal to the revolution. The violent counter-revolution began when Collins, using British-donated guns, bombed the IRA positions in the Four Courts, beginning the Battle of Dublin, in which Cathal Brugha was shot dead while securing his comrades' exit from a burning building. Until his death at Béal na Bláth, Collins fought against the forces of revolution lead by IRA

Chief of Staff General Liam Lynch, with his National Army capturing cities in Munster, destroying worker's councils and strikes, and inflicting grave atrocities against republicans such as summary executions. He stabbed IRA units in Ulster in the back, sending his forces to secure the border along with the crown. All the while, begging the British through letters for more guns and aid.

Counter-Revolutionary

While Collins justified this betrayal by calling his dominion of the British Empire "a steppingstone to freedom", his personal writings reveal that this concern was barely on his mind by the time of his death. Collins in 1922 predicted the primacy of a fight "against Bolshevism", that is, against the ideas of Socialist Republicanism and James Connolly, and Liam Mellows, after the counter-revolution had ended, rather than a fight against the British Army positions he had allowed to take up posts in the country. By this point, his government had enacted ardently pro-imperialist economic policies,

which would be later expanded by his even bloodier political successor, the anti-republican Free State war criminal W.T Cosgrave, the leader of Fine Gael's predecessor, Cumann na nGaedheal, which among Irish political organisations was formed by Collins' followers and stood firmly in the desperate bloodstained tradition of his state.

This false idea of the heroic, almost republican-adjacent Collins is egged on by a poor re-hashing of Irish history by both popular media and the misery of the Free State education system, which contains Leaving Cycle history textbooks that praise Collins as a "Big Fella" who was supposedly revered by both sides in the Irish counter-revolution. In his lionised depiction in the 1996 film "Michael Collins", which is a heroes-and-villains story tailored to appeal to an American audience, a misleadingly noble portrait of Collins is painted, while the leader of the republican side, IRA General Liam Lynch, does not even feature.

Due to a historical misportrayal, many will respond to criticisms of Collins by bringing up the character of Éamon de Valera, as though the counter-revolution was simply a personal power struggle between the two. The myth is not helped by the aforementioned film, or its thematic casting of the two characters. The reality is that after the treaty, De Valera, who was also an opportunist and himself would later betray the ideas of secular Irish republicanism and the IRA itself, played only a marginal role in events, largely as a bystander begging the revolutionaries to surrender.

Quislings

Collins, just like Varadkar and Martin, betrayed and sold out Ireland to British imperialists and capitalists for personal political gain, repressing Irish republicans and anyone who seeks the national liberation of our country to

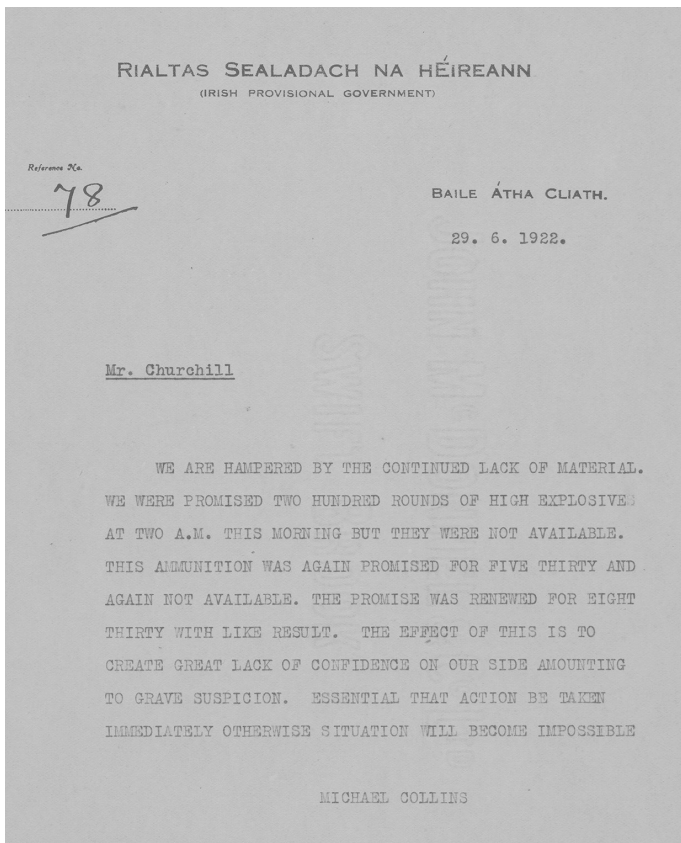


Collins in Free Stater uniform

achieve his aims. If they know of the life and work of Michael Collins as a comprador to the British crown forces, those who boo down Varadkar and Martin, in order to be consistent, would not be paying their respects to the man.

The lesson could well be learned by the far-right, largely imported from Britain, who honour Collins but wave their tricolours and insist they are the "real patriots", totally detached from republican history or anything to do with Ireland. It is for these reasons that those who counterpose Collins with Fine Gael, or try and debunk the idea that Fine Gael is the "party of Collins", should know well that Fine Gael is absolutely the party of Collins in the ugliest, bloodiest, most treacherous sense.

It is time to let them keep him. And if the far right want to claim him in their place, then they are welcome to. Just do not claim republicanism's good name, and certainly follow no delusions that Irish republicans of any organisation want anything to do with the traitor we put out of commission over a century ago.



Letter from Collins to Churchill begging for greater military aid.

PEOPLES WAR UPDATE—FEBRUARY 2023

PHILIPPINES

1st of February - The New People's Army in Southern Panay opened fire on the 1st Iloilo Mobile Company of the Philippine National Police at 10:00pm in Tubungan.

9th of February - Revolutionary NPA fighters Rufino "Ka Caloy" Alva, Samuel "Ka Marjon" Nuynay, Reneboy "Ka Jun" Barzaga, Jerome "Ka Mike" Sabang and Atrocino "Ka Rey" Aton were martyred in a battle in Barangay Guiom, Masbate.

11th of February - A rogue soldier of the 4th Infantry Detachment in Camp Evangelista went on a rampage, resulting in the death of 5 Armed Forces soldiers. His motivation for turning his gun on the fascist army he was serving is unknown.

15th of February - The New People's Army in Albay carried out a successful demolition operation against the 49th Infantry Battalion of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. 3 soldiers were killed. In compliance with the Geneva Convention, the NPA used a Command Detonated Explosive.

16th of February - The New People's Army in Central Negros under the Mt. Cansermon Command carried out a successful sniping operation against the 94th Infantry Battalion at 7:00pm. One soldier was killed.

18th of February - The Communist Party of the Philippines' Negros Island Regional Party Committee released a report stating that the NPA under the Apolinario Gatmaitan Command in Negros "have mounted 44 military offensives and punitive actions wherein at least a platoon of enemy troops were killed-in-action and another platoon was wounded."

20th of February - The New People's Army in Albay carried out an attack on two soldiers of the 94th Infantry Battalion at around 7:20am in Barangay Cotmon. The Battalion was engaged in a destructive land seizure by Centerways Construction in a nearby barangay. Both soldiers were killed, and a .45 caliber pistol was seized.

21st of February - The New People's Army in Central Negros disarmed Notelo Hermoso of his illegal weapons as per the decision of the Pumuluyo Revolutionary Court. Hermoso's family were grateful for the sanction. Four .45 caliber pistols and a 12-gauge shotgun were seized in the disarmament operation.

22nd of February - The New People's Army in Central Negros carried out the death penalty handed down on Danilo Sandot by the Revolutionary Court of the Pumuluyo for the rape of his own 8 year old daughter in 1987 among other crimes.

INDIA

The month of February saw an upsurge in the activities of the Indian Maoist revolutionaries, carrying out attacks against fascist politicians, their murderous security forces and their destructive investment projects in the poor rural regions.

In Chhattisgarh throughout the month, in a number of ambushes, security forces were killed by gunfire and IED explosions – at least eleven including a chief constable.

The fascist ruling party of India suffered the loss of three leading figures in the Bastar region of Chhattisgarh over the course of a week. These men were complicit with the genocidal campaign being carried out against the people of the region as well as with the extractive investment projects in the service of which this campaign is being waged. One fascist had been repeatedly warned to cease his support for the proposed iron mine that threatened to displace hundreds of local people. The Hindutva fascists who stir up hate against Muslims and lower caste people have now decided to suspend party activity in the region. Demonstrating the nature of their fascist regime, in the same region, the security forces unleashed indiscriminate fire on a small village, murdering a local man, Punem Lakhmu. They utilised their usual tactic of a "fake encounter", whereby it was alleged that the People's Liberation Guerrilla Army was firing on them, but, in fact, the revolutionaries were not present and no armed resistance was offered. This was a naked massacre on civilians.

In Jharkhand five vehicles of a construction firm were torched in order to stop the construction of roads to facilitate the movement of the fascist military, akin to the tactical destruction of infrastructure in Ireland between 1919 and 1923. Later in the month, on 19th February, women Maoists set fire to machines engaged in construction work for the counter-insurgency. In Bastar a truck engaged in iron ore mining was torched. A government building was also blown up in Jharkhand on the night of the 16th.

Despite intense repression the revolutionary base area of Dandakaranya celebrated Bhumkal Diwas (People's Day) on 10th February. This day marks the anniversary of the founding of the local organs of popular political power, the Revolutionary People's Committees, which effectively govern the region (an area of over 60,000 square kilometres, nearly twice the size of Belgium). This celebration signals the end of the annual communal campaign to improve irrigation and agriculture in which over 150,000 people participate. In the evenings after work the locals enjoy popular culture and art performances and displays. This final celebration is marked by a feast.

THE FASCIST TURKISH STATE



The following article was written by a Turkish comrade.

On February 6th, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake hit southern Turkey and northern and western Syria. Another 7.7 magnitude earthquake followed it 8 hours after, 90 km far from the first epicentre, leaving 46,000 people dead and flattening 200,000 apartments behind, according to official statements made by various ministers.

Turkey is over the seismic belt zone; that is to say, almost all cities are at high risk of earthquakes. Unlike in Europe, particularly in some areas such as Marmara and South-Eastern Anatolia regions, fault lines are so active that inhabitants regard earthquakes as a daily routine.

In 1999, Duzce, a city in Marmara Region near Istanbul, was hit by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake, killing more than 18,000 and disappearing 30,000 people. At that time, I was a kid; my entire family stayed on our farm even though our city was not heavily damaged. The fear emerging after being shaken in a five-storey apartment is traumatic and scary. Like us, thousands of families followed similar ways to feel safe. Upon that earthquake, the government introduced some earthquake exercises into the curriculum. Everybody at school grew up doing those earthquake exercises at least several times a year. I clearly remember the debates on TV and radio upon the earthquake. The catchphrase still exists in the country. "This taught us a lot; hereafter, we will take actions to strengthen our buildings enforce the building code properly, and spread awareness to mitigate possible consequences." Those fancy words and academic debates, all warnings lasted no longer than several

weeks; People went on living as before.

After 23 years, it is rather upsetting. The same debates on TV, witnessing traumatic events, losing loved ones, and even worse consequences indicate that the country learnt nothing but fatalism.

Opposition growing

The AKP-MHP administration is under the threat of emerging popular movements. They fear losing all their mechanism of corruption, fraud, and profiteer system by which they have filled up their pockets over the last twenty years. Türkiye's media regulator (RTÜK) banned three opposition broadcasters for their earthquake coverage.

Halk Tv, Tele 1 and Fox were fined for criticizing the government's handling. Many journalists have been detained for their coverage and interviews. Also, they are demonized and labelled as "provocateurs" by Erdogan.

The AKP-MHP fascist administration mobilized all of the forces of the fascist State and paramilitary groups to prevent their collapse.

It is vital to make this determination that the policy implemented by the State during and after the earthquake caused social unrest, great outrage and anger among people, specifically among the Alevi- Kurdish toiling classes

Millions of people were left desperate under the rubble in the first three days. Instead of sending rescue teams and the Turkish military into the epicentres, the government showed no interest. The Governors, officials, and mayors who went to the epicentres were booed, cursed and protested; vic-

tims kicked even their cars. Erdogan was tense while stating on TV; however, he did not back down from threatening those who protested his administration, adding, "We are taking notes; we will settle accounts after the earthquake."

Now they are terrorizing earthquake cities such as Hatay, Maraş and Adıyaman. The aim is to intimidate the people and make them migrate from the earthquake zone.

Ethnic cleansing

The absolute objective of the State is to expel the Arab and Kurdish Alevi people, who are always on the side of revolution and largely support revolutionaries in the struggle against the fascist State. The fascist State aims to replace these progressive elements of the country with reactionary people and mercenaries who fought in Syria in the ranks of ISIS, FSA, and other USA-EU-Turkey-backed mercenary groups. With no power and claims to overthrow Esad, thousands of mercenaries have settled in Turkey over the last several years.

This plan of Fascism can and must be defeated. The people of Antakya, Samandağ, and Harbiye-Defne, which have been flattened and a melting pot of various religions and ethnicities, a stronghold of revolutionary movements, showed their determination in the 2013 June popular uprising, Gezi, by heavily being involved in it. That is why the religious

IS TRAPPED UNDER THE RUBBLE



fascist government unleashed armed fascist herds on the streets of Antakya, Samandağ, Harbiye, Maraş and Adiyaman, tyrannizing people and arresting revolutionaries helping people.

Then what is to be done?

The toiling classes of the Kurdish, Arab, Armenian and other nations must resist the terror conducted by the Fascist State. HBDH (People's United Revolutionary Movement including PKK, TKP-ML MLKP, TKEP/L, MKP, DKP/B, TIKB, THKPC \ MLSPB, DK), released their statements, underscoring that nobody should leave their lands and submit to the terror and intimidation policies of the fascist State and its gangs.

Erdogan showed his true colours by restricting Twitter and internet providers, through which people under the rubble sent messages to get rescued. There were no rescue teams on the streets of Hatay, but TEM squads (Anti-Terror).

No need to mention conditions are so harsh and the fascist State has been worsening them by hindering the aid efforts of revolutionary forces, by confiscating trucks and humanitarian goods sent to the victims. It has intimidated progressive elements of society, NGOs, not to help through their own means but through AFAD (The Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency), which is directly associated with the central government and

run by the doormats of Erdogan.

Erdogan and his administration want people to refrain from taking the initiative and solving the problems that popped up after the earthquake. He is very aware of the revolutionary potential of the region; thus, he wants to implement displacement policies in those areas, as it has been done since the foundation of the Turkish Republic.

One might even argue that he might want to create a jihadist-populated belt surrounding Kurdistan. Herds of fascist gangs wander around in the cities, shooting in the air, intimidating people acting as fearmongers and trying to impose the idea that "you can no longer live here; everything is flattened; get the fuck out of here." It is a very similar scenario; we, revolutionaries, all know it from the very beginning of the Syrian War. Then, the next phase would be carrying out massacres of people and ethnic cleansing, mainly targeting progressive elements of the population.

Maraş massacre

One of the epicentres, Kahramanmaras, is very infamous for The Maraş massacre. In a nutshell, the events lasted in Kahramanmaras for one week in 1978. A bomb was allegedly thrown into a cinema by leftists. The next day a bomb was thrown into a leftist cafe by grey wolves, turning into the deadliest massacre in the country. In the end, more than 500 hundred people got killed by grey wolves, 400 houses belonging to Alevis were set on fire, and 1,000 people were injured. Alevis were set on fire alive; babies were nailed to walls. There is no exag-

geration in these sentences. It is essential that how those fascist gangs are driven and what they could do at worst.

We should remember all this, and we should learn from this.

Compelling the oppressed peoples to migrate through terror and intimidation is the most effective policy that has been implemented since the foundation—migration of the Armenians, the Greeks, and other ethnicities. We also know this policy from Kurdistan: the Kurdish people's displacement by terror and the burning of their villages. That is the history of Turkish Fascism. We cannot leave the people at the mercy of herds of fascists.

Solidarity

Now we are facing the same policies; Tayyip Erdogan and the puppets under his command are trying to shift the blame onto nature and fate. They almost declared our people guilty. Let's increase our solidarity with our people in the cities, towns and villages exposed to the earthquake. Let's share their sufferings and difficulties. Let's mobilize our sources for blood, shelter, food, clothing and medicine.

The chief of the thousand-room fascist palace regime, covered in blood, living in luxury, the enemies of the people, the trumpets of lies, and its crackhead bureaucrats immersed in torture and massacre, won't escape the justice of the oppressed.

AN ANALYSIS OF THE ONGOING PALESTINIAN INTIFADA

Since the end of the Al Aqsa Intifada in 2005, resistance against the Zionist entity has been sporadic at best, with flare-ups often dying out as fast as they had started. That is no longer the case.

In May 2021 the resistance in the West Bank flared up due to the Zionist invasion of the Al Aqsa mosque compound and the attempts to build settlements in Sheikh Jarrah in occupied Al Quds.

In response to Zionist aggression the resistance launched barrages of rockets from Gaza in unprecedented numbers, completely overwhelming the iron dome and hitting targets all across the entity's settlements near Gaza and as far as "Tel Aviv". At the same time resistance continued across the West Bank. However, after 11 days of serious fighting, a ceasefire was declared and an Intifada never materialised. This time however, the resistance had demonstrated they could inflict serious damage on the Zionist entity and they had newfound rocket capabilities that could strike the Zionism right at its heart.

A year of gathering momentum

2022 brought a real increase in resistance. Early on in the year fighting was seen several times in Balata camp a stronghold of resistance as well as gunfire from Gaza several times and clashes with the Zionists in Qalandia refugee camp. In February the resistance in Nablus and Tubas carried out several gun attacks on Zionist outposts, several areas of the West Bank saw clashes with a slow but steady increase in resistance.

Early in March clashes broke out in Jenin, the first week saw 4 resistance attacks and 6 Palestinians were killed by Zionist forces. The resistance responded in kind within a matter of days first by stabbing two Zionist troops in Al

Quds and then by killing 5 settlers in Bnei Brak. 2 days after the Bnei Brak operation another settler was killed. This escalation was significant and was to be a sign of what was to come.

April saw even further escalation 13 Palestinians were killed with 200 injured and 500 arrested. Resistance factions responded with at least 8 resistance operations and rockets from Gaza. 4 settlers and a soldier were killed in the resistance attacks. Early in May, resistance fighters carried out an operation killing 3 settlers (a fourth died of his wounds in February 2023) and a Zionist troop was stabbed. On May 11th the entity murdered prominent Palestinian journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, as she reported on the fighting in Jenin. On the same day an 18 year old was murdered by Zionists in Ramallah. In response the resistance in Jenin killed a Zionist commando. Over the coming days fighting intensified with near daily incursions into Jenin by Zionists and three resistance fighters were killed. Clashes erupted in Nablus as Zionist forces shot and killed a child near Joseph's tomb.

In June several resistance fighters were killed in Jenin and the resistance responded with rocket fire from Gaza ending a two month lull. Incursions of Jenin continued to occur daily with 5 resistance fighters been killed by the end of the month. The resistance in Nablus responded to the killing of resistance fighters from Jenin by shooting at Zionist settlers and troops in Nablus, critically wounding two settlers and a soldier.

In July, Jenin remained the centre for resistance while the resistance in Gaza fired rockets at Zionist targets. A Zionist police officer was also killed in a resistance hit and run attack, a tactic that would prove very successful for the Palestinian resistance throughout the year.

The Lions of Nablus

Late July and early August saw the most prominent escalation in Palestinian resistance of the year with the formation of the Lions Den, a localized battalion of resistance fighters from all factions in Nablus. Over the coming months other Lions den groupings would form or remerge such as the Falcons nest in Tulkarem, the Lions of Truth in Al Khalil and the Balata brigade. These groupings following the highly successful example of the Jenin brigade.

By September fighting in the West Bank particularly in Jenin and Nablus was a daily occurrence with every Zionist raid being met by salvos of Resistance bullets and IEDs. In September and October there were over 100 incursions into Jenin and Nablus with Resistance fighters being martyred on an almost daily basis. The Lion of Shufat camp, PFLP fighter Oday Al Tamimi was martyred in late October having caused a major security alert by carrying out a daring operation in which he killed a Zionist soldier. After weeks on the run he remerged to carry out another operation and was killed at point blank range as he lay wounded still firing his gun. His martyrdom would spur on resistance operations making Shufat camp ungovernable for Zionist forces in the same way as Jenin and Nablus. By now PA control over much of the West Bank was practically non-existent and the camp was firmly in the hands of the resistance who although suffering heavy losses continued to make Zionist incursions a costly and often lethal event for the Zionist forces.

Zionist raids increase

In November resistance intensified even further as did Zionist incursions into the West Bank with an estimated 300 raids. Many of these raids were

unsuccessful due to the intense levels of resistance causing Zionist forces to cut their losses and withdraw. Rocket fire intensified from Gaza too in response the Zionist bombings as did the use of anti aircraft heavy machine guns and Surface to air missiles. While only a mild deterrent against the technologically advanced F-16 fighter planes they proved successful against helicopters and reconnaissance aircraft. As did hacking in the case of reconnaissance drones with resistance cyber units in the West Bank and Gaza shown capabilities in hacking drones to obtain information and even down them. December followed in the same vain as the previous 4 months with multiple daily resistance operations. By the end of 2022 the Palestinian resistance carried out over 285 resistance operations over double that of 2021 as well as 10,000 plus other resistance acts from car rammings to stone thrown stabbings and petrol bombings. 31 settlers and soldiers were killed and 230 fighters and civilians were martyred.

The Third Intifada

As 2023 came the resistance showed no sign of slowing down. Attacks against Zionist targets are at their highest level since the Al Aqsa intifada

and the entity finds itself in disarray, unable to stop the Intifada. January saw multiple daily resistance attacks as the Zionist forces intensified it's raiding into Nablus Jenin Balata and Shufat. PFLP stronghold in Bethlehem, Dheisheh camp saw an increase in raiding with two 14 and 15 year old PFLP members being killed by Zionist forces as they defended their camp. January 26th saw a massacre in Jenin when 10 people including three civilians were killed by Zionists. This caused widespread resistance across the camp and the wider West Bank as well as rocket barrages from Gaza. In a revenge attack the next day the Palestinian resistance undertook a daring operation killing 8 settlers and wounding two more in Al Quds.

On January 28th a Zionist soldier and settler were wounded in another shooting operation in Al Quds. In January alone 35 Palestinians were martyred and there were 390 Zionist raids in the west bank. 9 settlers and soldiers were killed in resistance operations.

So far in February we have seen 100s of resistance operations across the West Bank. On February 22 Zionist forces killed 10 people and wounded 100+ more in a massacre in Nablus. In response the Palestinian resistance called a

general strike across all of Palestine. A barrage of rockets were fired from Gaza and within 90 minutes of midnight, 24 resistance operations were carried out.. To date this year 60+ Palestine fighters and civilians have been killed by Zionist forces with there been over 700 raids into the west bank. The resistance has responded with 100s of attacks and has killed at least 12 settlers and soldiers wounding dozens more. The multiple daily resistance attacks have sent the Zionist entity into total disarray and the puppet Palestinian authority into almost total collapse. Over 2 million settlers have said they have made, are making or would consider making plans to flee Palestine in the wake of the new levels of resistance. One fifth of settlers have already moved financial assets out of entity bank accounts in preparation to leave as they fear total collapse of Zionism.

The Third Intifada is here and happening across Palestine. This new generation of resistance fighters have demonstrated they are both willing and capable of fighting to Free Palestine. The forces of reaction are crumbling. The Intifada grows daily. Long live the Intifada! Victory to the Palestinian Resistance!

FROM THE RIVER TO THE SEA!



Lion's Den fighters, Nablus

ANTI-FASCIST STATEMENT FROM REPUBLICAN EX-PRISONERS

The following statement was published by Anti Fascist Action Ireland this month.

"We, the undersigned men and women, served terms of imprisonment in jails in Ireland, England and Europe during the conflict for Irish republican activity.

We are signing this statement to make it clear to communities, and especially young people, that Irish Republicanism has no affinity with the crude 'nationalist' hatred recently being peddled by racist and fascist groups stirring up anti-immigrant feeling.

Irish Republicanism grew from the three principles of 'liberty', 'equality' and 'fraternity' in the French Revolution. In the centuries since these ideas have informed our politics, which has always been Internationalist and Democratic in outlook. Our movement is secular and rejects religious sectarianism. Many Republicans align themselves with progressive

liberation struggles worldwide.

It is incumbent on all of us to continue this tradition and resist any attempts by Irish fascist organisers to claim the mantle of Irish republicanism for themselves.

The reactionary views of fascists have always been directly opposed to our beliefs, but now fascists pose as 'patriots' and 'community defenders'. The leaders of these groups played no part in decades of struggle in Ireland. These groups are directly influenced by loyalists and British neo-nazis and other far-right elements.

We call on all Irish republicans of all ages, groups and traditions to become active in your community, workplace and the streets *"to try and stem the rising fascist tide"*.

Liam McCotter - Béal Feirste
Pat Hayes - Baile Átha Cliath
Liam Heffernan - Béal Feirste
Mike Edwards - Luimneach
Steve McCann - Cill Mhantáin
Noel McCabe - An Mhí
John A Heany - Ard Mhacha
Nick McBennett - Baile Átha Cliath
John Troy - Baile Átha Cliath
Ursula Ní Shionnain - Baile Átha Cliath
Pádraic Mac Coitir - Béal Feirste
Eamon Digney - Béal Feirste
Máire Drumm - Béal Feirste
Gary Kearney - Béal Feirste
Risteárd Pádraic Ó Murchú - Béal Feirste
Seán McGuinness - Ard Mhacha
Barry Murray - Fear Manach
Paul Finnegan - Béal Feirste
Colum Mac Giolla Bhéin - Béal Feirste
Frank Brennan - An Dún
Seán Clinton - Aontroim
Gerry Maguire - Fear Manach

Seán Montgomery - Béal Feirste
Patrick McCabe - Aontroim
Phil McCullough - Aontroim
Sam Caskey - Aontroim
Angela Nelson - Béal Feirste
Andy Gibson - Béal Feirste
Micky Valley - Béal Feirste
Susie Valley - Béal Feirste
Kevin McGrogan - Cill Mhantáin
Tommy McKearney - Tír Eoghain
Hughie McCann - Baile Átha Cliath
Conal Corbett - Béal Feirste
Paudge Lavin - Baile Átha Cliath
Colm Laigneach - Mhuineachán
Gerard Murray - Béal Feirste
John Crawley - Muineachán
Frank Quinn - Tír Eoghain
Brian Arthurs - Tír Eoghain
Brendan Donaghy - Tír Eoghain
Emmanuel Conway - Béal Feirste
Dermott Quinn - Tír Eoghain
Daithí Delaney - Béal Feirste

Dee Fennell - Béal Feirste
Paddy Mullan - Béal Feirste
Seán Ó Fiaich - Béal Feirste
Richard Whyte - Cill Dara
Kieran Flynn - Béal Feirste
Roddy Fitzsimons - An Dún
Seán Fitzsimons - Béal Feirste
Dessie Donnelly - Fear Manach
Breige-Ann McCaughley - Béal Feirste
Anthony McIntyre - Droichead Nua
Liam Martin - Béal Feirste
Danny Lavery - Béal Feirste
Thomas McWilliams - Béal Feirste
Rory Morgan - Béal Feirste
Gavin Hawkins - Béal Feirste
Seán McGuigan - Béal Feirste
Barry Rodgers - An tIur
Sadie McLaughlin - Tír Eoghain
Bernard Fox - Béal Feirste
Joe McArdle - Ard Mhacha
Peter Corrigan - Tír Eoghain
Cornelius McFadden - An Mhí
Tarlach Mac Dhónaill - Béal Feirste
Tommy Fox - Béal Feirste

John Moloney - Cill Dara
Seán Carlin - Béal Feirste
Pól Mac Adaim - Aontroim
Michael Logue - Dhún na nGall
Paddy Kelly - Béal Feirste
Alec Carlin - Béal Feirste
Jim Harte - An Mhí
Gary Donnelly - Doire
Michael Gallagher - Doire
Eddie Campbell - Béal Feirste
Michael Dickson - Baile Átha Cliath
Jim Monaghan - Dhún na nGall
Phil McCullough - Béal Feirste
Johnny Creagh - An Iarmhí
James Ashe - Baile Átha Cliath
Stephen Coleman - An Lorgain
Pat McNamee - Ard Mhacha
Gerry McConville - Béal Feirste
Joseph Kavanagh - Béal Feirste
Michael Fitzsimons - Béal Feirste
Martin Livingstone - Béal Feirste
Simon O'Donnell - Baile Átha Cliath

Anti-racist Political ex-Prisoners are invited to add their names to this growing list by contacting antiracistpows@gmail.com

"Weeping Winds"

by Bobby Sands

Oh! Cold March winds your cruel laments
Are hard on prisoners' hearts,
For you bring my mother's pleading cries
From whom I have to part.
I hear her weeping lonely sobs
Her sorrows sweep me by,
And in the dark of prison cell
A tear has warmed my eye.



Oh! Whistling winds why do you weep
When roaming free you are,
Oh! Is it that your poor heart's broke
And scattered off afar?
Or is it that you bear the cries
Of people born unfree,
Who like your way have no control
Or sovereign destiny?



Oh! Lonely winds that walk the night
To haunt the sinner's soul
Pray pity me a wretched lad
Who never will grow old.
Pray pity those who lie in pain
The bondsman and the slave,
And whisper sweet the breath of God
Upon my humble grave.



JOIN ANTI IMPERIALIST ACTION

AIA is a fighting Revolutionary Socialist Republican organisation formed in 2017 to rebuild the fight against imperialism.

Organised in all four Provinces, veteran and experienced Republicans are joining with new revolutionary youth to continue the struggle for National Liberation and Socialist Revolution until victory. You can play your part in this important work by becoming a member or active supporter of Anti Imperialist Action Ireland.

We are actively recruiting and are building a network of socialist Republicans across the country, Revolutionaries who owe their allegiance to the Working Class and the People's Republic Proclaimed in 1916 alone. All Republicans should get involved.

If you agree with our principles and our work as outlined in this newspaper then you should join Anti Imperialist Action.

Help us rebuild the Revolutionary Movement by joining the Resistance!

Contact

lsrmedia@protonmail.com

for more information on
membership or becoming
an active supporter.

1916 COMMEMORATION



SUNDAY APRIL 9

Assemble 1pm

Phibsboro Shopping Centre
Dublin



**March To
ICA Plot,
Glasnevin
Cemetery.**

REPUBLICAN FLUTE BAND IN ATTENDANCE

ANTI IMPERIALIST ACTION IRELAND

Frith-Impiriúlach na h-Éireann